

Number of Lobbyists and Lobbyist Agents - 2004

The number of total lobbyists and lobbyist agents by year (this number will fluctuate on any given day due to new registrations or terminations). Lobbyists are typically interest groups and lobbyist agents are the individuals and firms that represent the interest groups (lobbyists).

	<u>1998</u>	<u>1999</u>	<u>2000</u>	<u>2001</u>	<u>2002</u>	<u>2003</u>	<u>2004</u>
Lobbyists	971	1021	1044	1033	1093	1116	1159
Lobbyist Agents	1231	1262	1281	1193	1268	1228	1258
Total	2202	2283	2325	2296	2361	2344	2417

Definition of Lobbyist (Interest Group) Any type of person, organization, corporation, labor union, trade association or other type of group that makes expenditures for lobbying (or enters into a contract that specifies future expenditures) that exceed the current expenditure thresholds defining a lobbyist. These expenditures may consist of any type of payments or a portion of an employee's salary devoted to lobbying or payments to a lobbyist agent firm.

A person whose expenditures are more than \$1,975.00 during any 12-month period for lobbying, or who expends more than \$500.00 during any 12-month period to lobby a single public official, must register within 15 calendar days as a Lobbyist under the Act. The state, or a political subdivision of the state, becomes a Lobbyist immediately upon contracting for a Lobbyist Agent regardless of the amount spent for lobbying. Any person entering into a contract to exceed these thresholds during any 12-month period immediately becomes a Lobbyist.

Definition of Lobbyist Agent (lobbies on behalf of a lobbyist organization) A lobbyist agent is an individual or a firm that is compensated to lobby on behalf of clients or employers (lobbyists). An individual or firm would prorate their compensation received for lobbying when determining if the compensation threshold defining a lobbyist agent has been crossed.

A person compensated or reimbursed more than \$500.00 during any 12-month period for lobbying must register within 3 calendar days as a Lobbyist Agent under the Act. Any person entering into a contract to receive more than this threshold during any 12-month period immediately becomes a Lobbyist Agent.

Definition of Lobbying (Direct Communication to Influence Lobbyable Officials) Lobbying is defined as any type of direct communication, person to person, by mail, via telephone, fax or any other type electronic communication with lobbyable state level officials in Michigan for the purpose of influencing legislative or administrative actions.

Additional information is available at www.michigan.gov/sos.

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